

S-350  
W.J. Shockley Farm  
Princess Anne vicinity  
private

Early nineteenth century

The W.J. Shockley farm is a significant complex of early nineteenth-century structures. The farmhouse was clearly built in two principal stages and formerly extended to the south by a colonnade and kitchen. Exterior alterations have included a layer of asbestos shingles and the replacement of nine-over-six sash windows. On the other hand, the outbuildings are relatively well preserved examples from the mid to late nineteenth century. The stilted dairy is a rare type of structure, and the brick smokehouse is a rare type of outbuilding. It is apparent the mid eighteenth-century paneling inserted in the kitchen and the reused glazed bricks in the smokehouse were salvaged from a much older dwelling.

For more than the past century, this farm has been owned by the Woodford or Shockley families. In 1885, W.J. Shockley rented the farm from William Woolford, and then in 1910, Shockley purchased the property. The farm passed to W.C. Shockley, who occupied the river-front property until the late 1970s.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-350

Magi No. 2003505435

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic W. J. Shockley Farm - Woolford Farm

and/or common W. C. Shockley Farm

## 2. Location

street & number End of Kemps Nursery Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Princess Anne ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership  | Status  | Present Use  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district    | <input type="checkbox"/> public                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private        | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied                 | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both                      | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress           | <input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                          | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific                    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered          | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted          | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation                |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no                         | <input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:                          |

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert Shockley

street & number Oriole Road telephone no.: 651-0651

city, town Princess Anne state and zip code Maryland 21853

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clerk of Circuit Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. S-350

|  |                                       |   |   |                    |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved                    | date of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |   |                    |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The W. J. Shockley farm is located at the end of Kemp Nursery Road along the Manokin River near Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. The early nineteenth-century farmhouse on the property faces west with the gable oriented on a north/south axis. Accompanying the farmhouse is the old kitchen, a granary, a stilted dairy, and a brick smokehouse.

Dating to the early nineteenth century, the two-story, three-bay farmhouse was built in two principal stages. A seam in the brick foundation, seams in the cornice, and a slightly uneven roof indicate that the southern portion of the house predates the northern bay. The entire house is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and it is sheathed with asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof is finished with a boxed cornice and flush gable ends. Rising from each gable end is an interior brick chimney. The south end chimney has been rebuilt.

The west (main) elevation is a slightly asymmetrical three-bay facade covered on the first floor by a hip roof screened-in porch. The front door is a replacement as are the flanking single-pane sash windows. A former resident described the old nine-over-six sash windows. The second floor is lighted by three single-pane sash as well.

The north gable end has two replacement sash on each floor and a pair of four-pane attic windows that flank the interior end brick stack. The south end is partially covered by a rear shed addition. The window details remain consistent with the rest of the house. To the back, the first floor is covered with the shed addition, and three unevenly spaced windows light the second floor.

Standing southeast of the dwelling is the old single-story kitchen which was formerly attached to the house by a single-story colonnade. The kitchen, now used as a storage building, is a single-story, two-bay one-room plan frame structure covered with asphalt tile sheets that imitate brick. A board and batten door is located in the left bay, while a six-over-six sash window fills the right bay. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the cornice is plain. A small brick stack rises from the south gable end in lieu of the former brick stack.

The interior contains a small winder stair in the northwest corner which is enclosed behind beaded boards and a four-panel door. Oddly, inserted between the stair and the studs of the north wall is a six-foot by five-foot remnant of a fielded panel wall probably dating from the mid eighteenth century. The walls and ceiling of the kitchen are covered with narrow beaded boards. The loft is unfinished.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. S-350

| Period  | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric          | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The W. J. Shockley farm is a significant complex of early nineteenth-century structures. The farmhouse was clearly built in several stages and once had a colonnade and single-story kitchen. Exterior alterations have included a sheathing of asbestos shingles and the replacement of the old nine-over-six sash windows. On the other hand, the outbuildings are relatively well-preserved examples from the mid to late nineteenth century. The stilted dairy is a rare type of structure, and the brick smokehouse is not an often-found outbuilding. It is apparent the mid eighteenth century paneling stuck in the kitchen and the reused glazed bricks in the smokehouse were salvaged from another building, perhaps the former dwelling on this prominent river site.

For more than the past century, this farm has been owned by the Woolford or Shockley families. In 1885, W. J. Shockley rented the farm from William Woolford, and then in 1910, Shockley purchased the property. The farm passed to W. C. Shockley, who occupied the farmhouse until 1977.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-350

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
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|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 6/4/86

street &amp; number 424 N. Somerset Avenue telephone 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne state Maryland 21853

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

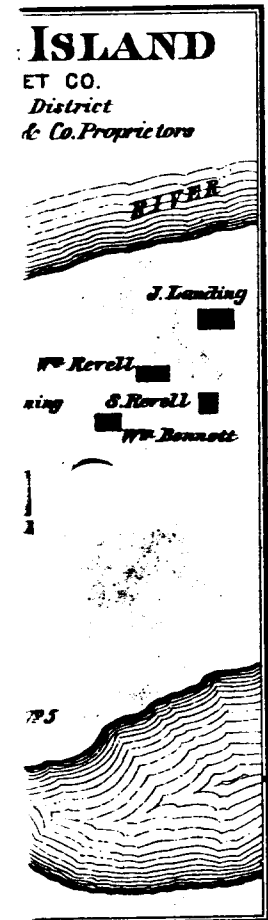
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

Description Continued

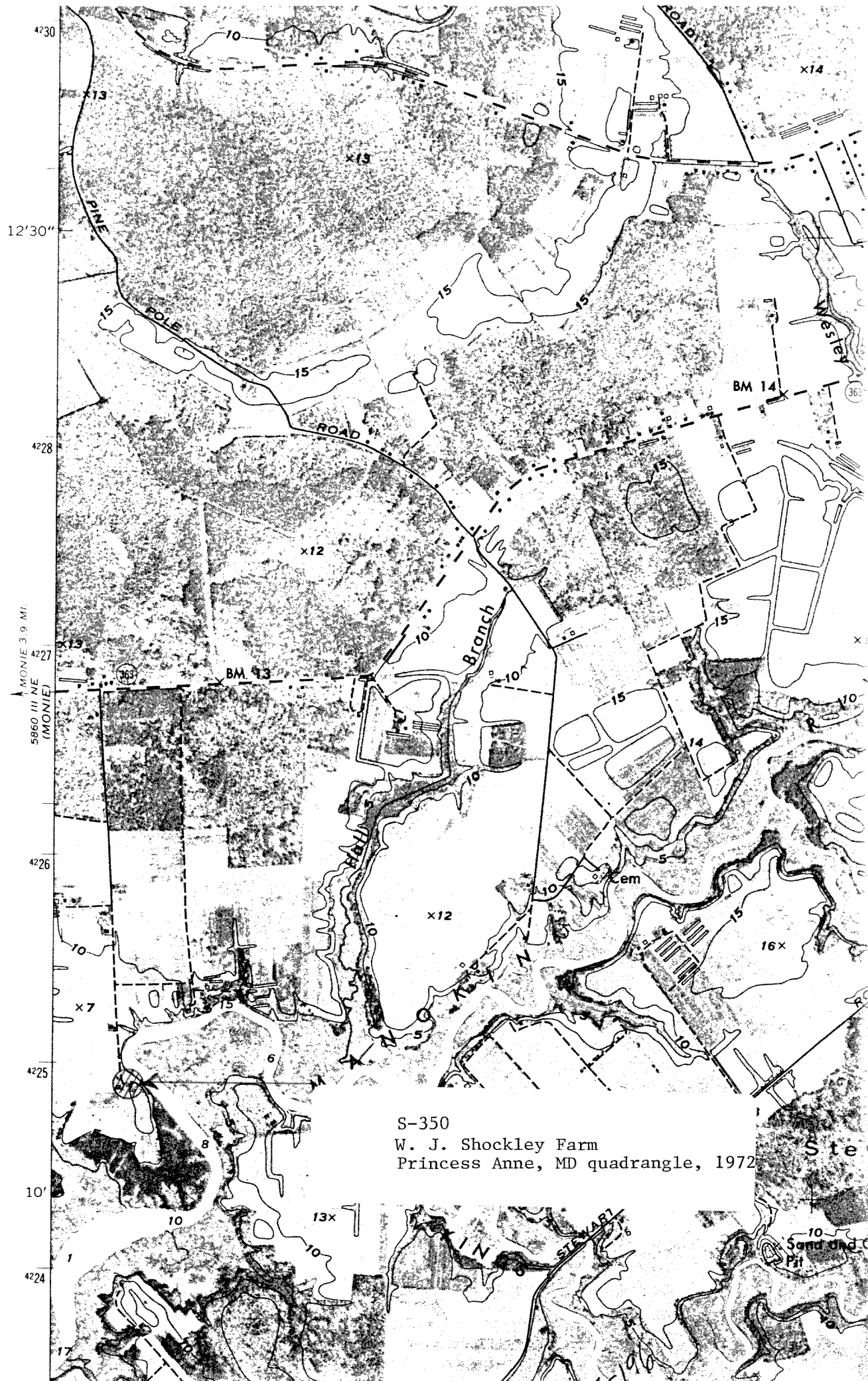
Located near the kitchen is a common bond brick smokehouse. Four common bond brick walls retain remnants of stucco and whitewash. Due to the various sizes of bricks and the relative frequency of glazed bricks it appears that many were salvaged from a former building. The gable ends are studded and covered with weatherboards. The roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The only opening in the rectangular structure is the door on the east side which is topped by a jack arch.

Also standing behind the house is a small stilted dairy covered with a shed roof. The four walls are sheathed with weatherboards and pierced with a board door on the west side and louvered openings on the north and south.

The last outbuilding is the nineteenth century granary which formerly stood next to river. During the recent past the gable front frame structure was moved closer to the house. Currently sheathed with corrugated tin, the mortise and tenon frame is strenghtened with down braces and large oak tie beams. Cut nails are found in the common rafter roof system with half-dovetail lap collar beams.



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S-350  
W. J. Shockley Farm  
Princess Anne, MD quadrangle, 1972





W.C. Shockley Farm                      S-350  
Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.  
West Elevation  
4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



W.C. Shockley Farm                      S-350  
Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.  
Southeast Elevation  
4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



W.C. Shockley Farm

S-350

Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.

West Elevation

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust



W.C. Shockley Farm

S-350

Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.

West Elevation of Dairy

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust





W.C. Shockley Farm S-350  
Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.  
West Elevation of Old Kitchen  
4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



W.C. Shockley Farm S-350  
Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.  
East Elevation of Smokehouse  
4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust